

My Worst Blunder

FAMOUS "BONEHEAD" PLAYS ON MAJOR LEAGUE DIAMONDS

Explained by Leading Baseball Players to

HUGH S. FULLERTON

BY PAT MORAN,

Catcher Philadelphia Nationals, Who is Considered One of the Wisest and Most Cunning of the National League Veterans.

Just the instant a fellow thinks he is pulling off about the smartest and cleverest trick possible, his foot slips and he looks like the worst in the world. There is one play that I made that taught me it never is safe to laugh until the play is over, and sometimes not then. It is funny now, but it wasn't funny to me then, and it took me a season or two to appreciate the humor of it.

I guess I lost a game by that play just about as quickly and as easily as ever anyone lost one, and I think the inside story of the play is interesting just to show how much luck can figure in a game of ball.

I was with the Boston club and was catching. We were playing Pittsburgh and at the start of the ninth inning we had the game in hand, 2 to 1, with Willis pitching, and it looked as if we had them stopped and licked all the way. It looked a whole lot better when the first two Pirates that came to bat went out, for, as you know,



Pat Moran.

that team never is beaten while Clarke and Wagner and some of the others are likely to come to bat. With two out good old Ginger Beaumont got to first and Fred Clarke came up and bounded one around the fences, sending Beaumont home and evening up the score. The hit was good for three bases, and Clarke had to be fast to get that far, as the Boston ground is small, but there wasn't a chance to stop him at second or to catch him at third. I saw Clarke sprinting from second to third, and seeing that the ball had been fielded I stood there at the plate yelling at the top of my voice, "Send him in!" "Send him in!" Sam Leever was coaching at third base, and hearing me yelling took it for granted that some of his own men over at the bench were shouting for him to send Clarke home, so Sam jumped up and down, yelling at Clarke to go on and waving him home. Clarke had not yet reached third base when Aubrey had the ball in the infield up near first, where it had been thrown to him by Doc Carney, our right fielder. Clarke turned third base at top speed, without looking, and it seemed to be an easy out. I was having a good laugh at the idea that I had made Leever pull off a bone-headed bit of coaching. Aubrey swung and was so surprised at seeing Clarke sprinting for the plate that he hesitated a second, got rattled and threw the ball high over my head, letting Clarke score the winning run, as we didn't score in our half of the ninth and Pittsburgh won the game, 5 to 3.

When I saw that ball sailing over my head you may be sure I was wishing I had kept my mouth shut. I guess Sam thought the same when he saw Clarke turn third, and probably he wasn't happy when it turned out all right. And he didn't fail to mention it to me any time we saw each other in the next year or two.

The play just goes to show how things will turn in baseball. I lost the game by a "smart" piece of work, and Pittsburgh won it on a blunder, and it works out that way many times.

Women who have not seen this laugh only with their eyes.—Mrs. De Rieux.

His Natural Self

If anybody had given a party with a prize for the most helpless husband there was not a bit of doubt that Docky would have gone home with the prize under his arm. This was an indisputable fact, for his wife said so and she should have possessed expert knowledge on the subject.

"If you should turn James Docky loose in the middle of a desert," she often said, "with an oasis in plain sight, that helpless man would turn and walk the other way and die of starvation. Here I am, wearing myself to a shadow remembering to remind him of what he ought to do or telling him where he put his pink striped shirt or getting him more towels when those in the bathroom have slipped down back of the tub! You'd think that the man never heard of the back of the bathtub the way he forgets to reach behind it! He's more trouble than a family of ten children! I declare, his helplessness looks more to become old before my time."

He never knew where he had put his umbrella when there was a rain-storm that he had to go out in. He was petrified with a dismal sort of horror if he had to hunt out his own apparel. It was on record that once when they were dining out and Mrs. Docky had come on ahead to spend the day he didn't come. When finally they telephoned him he told his exasperated wife with tears in his voice that somehow he couldn't possibly get a white tie on that looked right.

"Where are you getting your dress ties from?" Mrs. Docky inquired with an awful premonition.

"From the little drawer to the left in the top of the chiffonier," recited Docky, pathetically.

"Those," breathed Mrs. Docky over the phone, "are my white summer belts! Look in the drawer below!"

She often said with pathos that if James would only reform she would be the happiest woman on earth.

It was nothing short of tragic then when Docky had to go west on business and his return was delayed three months. Mrs. Docky worried incessantly over him. "If he wasn't so useless," she said, "it wouldn't be so bad, but he'll lose everything he has and will come home with his cuffs led on with strings! He won't be able to find a thing and nobody will look out for him and he'll leave a pair of pajamas hanging in the closet of every hotel room he's in! I'm afraid he won't get enough to eat, because he never knows what he wants and always insists on my picking out things on the bill of fare."

When at last Docky returned home his wife looked him over fearfully. His coat was on right side up and his right shoe was not upon his left foot. He was wearing his own hat, his linen was presentable and he was short only one pair of pajamas.

"Do you feel well, James?" Mrs. Docky asked, anxiously.

"If I felt any better," declared her husband, "I'd be sick aboard from it!"

At breakfast Docky put sugar and cream on his berries so nonchalantly as if he had always known how. He picked up his umbrella from behind the door and produced his gloves airily. When he had gone Mrs. Docky sat down and breathed hard. She could not understand it.

That evening it was still worse. Docky dressed without once asking where anything was. When his wife said that she had come to put in the shirt studs Docky looked surprised and said they were already in. He even got out his silk hat and brushed it, whistling cheerily, while Mrs. Docky stood around making futile efforts to help him.

She was pale and not herself all evening and persisted in tramping her partner's ace. When they started home not only did her husband find his own wraps, but he got hers and helped her into them.

She did not speak all the way home. When Docky turned out the hall lights instead of waiting for her to do it she fled upstairs to hide her emotion.

Just when Mrs. Docky had reached the point where she decided that the queer feeling which possessed her meant that she was going to die Docky came with hesitating steps into the room.

"Dear," he murmured, "I can't find the soap—it isn't in the soap dish—and where are my bedroom slippers?"

It was then that his wife cast herself upon his bosom and dissolved in a flood of tears. "It—it's probably slipped down on the floor!" she sobbed. "They—they're in your closet behind your g-golf shoes! Oh, James, you haven't seemed natural till this minute! I thought I'd lost you! I don't like to have you look after yourself! It doesn't seem natural!"

"Well," grinned the enlightened Docky, "I wouldn't worry! I guess I haven't reformed enough in three months so you'd really notice it! Say, I wish you'd help me—I can't get this blamed tie loose!"—Chicago Daily News.

Self-Evident.

"Why do you call that hen by such a name as Macduff?"

"Because I want her to lay on."

MADE UP IN TAFFETA

CHARMING FROCK DESIGNED ON PRINCESS MODEL.

Suggests Some of the Changes Which Are Creeping Into the Fashions—Hercules Braid Fits Well as a Dressing.

The princess model with robe front, or suggested petticoat, is shown in the illustration, the model being adapted to both the finest and plainest textures. Besides the suggestion of an open skirt over a separate petticoat this design gives other features prominent in fashion's realm. The low armhole is much admired, this device permitting the least possible shaping of the bodice material and allowing the bottom of the sleeve to fit the arm closely. Here taffeta, that newest of all new materials, is used, the color a soft golden brown. The lace front and other ornaments of the dress are of a deep cream raitine lace introducing a touch of brown, and the guimpe is of a spotted net finished at the neck with a brown ribbon with turtlet edge.

This dainty frock suggests in detail some of the changes which are trying to creep into dress, the fussier trimmings, the separation of the skirt from the tunic; yet it is still conservative, and by leaving off the trimmings it may be made the simplest thing imaginable. There is a very new change possible for the collar, the last notion for this being a very deep back with a rounded bottom. All versions of the style give the proper neck and sleeve cut for each one—the fine gown is generally collarless, with three-quarter sleeves, while the practical one is high necked and long sleeved.



Another charming device for taffeta would be to have the main part of the frock in a flowered or striped design and the deckings of plain. A veiling with taffeta trimmings is also adapted to dressy effects, for most of the things which are not of taffeta will be taffeta trimmed. Among the deckings used on taffeta itself—and they are many—is Hercules braid, a number of the coat suits being trimmed in this manner.

If a simple frock on these lines is needed, thin blue serge with a touch of black taffeta would be very modest and yet smart as well.

Thin dressy materials of a cheap nature are countless, and the very smartest of these are made up in one-piece manner, the gayer colors running to puffings and shirtings, the staid ones looking well with deep skirt tucks and a shirt waist suggestion of the bodice.

String Belt.

A belt made of colored string is a novel accessory to milady's toilet. It is made by crocheting the string, using a plain stitch, into the shape of a belt, having the two fronts narrower than the back. For light-colored wash dresses natural-colored string is used, but if it be a dark gown or you wish to match the color of your tie in the belt, make it of a fine wrapping cord that can be bought in almost any desired shade.

Fasten it in front with a plain metal or pearl buckle.

White Bathroom.

A small bathroom is much better in white paint. There are excellent enamel paints to be had which can be used on plaster and woodwork alike, leaving a finish that water will not harm, says a Ladies' Home Journal writer. I should advise very light cream and then with a blue-and-white cotton rug and bath mat you will have a very fresh and pretty bathroom.

Dressing the Bed.

The bed is receiving a good deal of dressing these days. One of the most splendidly appareled ones has a cover with brocade velvet center, a wide band of point de venise, and for the border a band of seal. A huge bow of old rose taffeta with fringed ends is laid across the bed near the foot.

CLASSIFIED ADS.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STOCKHOLDERS OF THE WASHINGTON REAL ESTATE CO.

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of the Washington Real Estate Company will be held in the principal office of the Company, No. 111 South Fairfax street, Alexandria, Virginia, on the first Monday, June 3, 1912, at 1 o'clock p. m., for the election of officers for the ensuing year and the transaction of such other business as may constitutionally come before said meeting. Books for the transfer of stock will be closed on Saturday, May 25th to Tuesday, June 4th, 1912, both dates inclusive.

WILLIAM H. BADEN, Secretary.

May 9, 1912.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

A dividend of Three Dollars per share will be paid to the stockholders in combination policy if wanted. On and after Wednesday, May 15th, 1912. Checks will be mailed stockholders.

By order of the Board of Directors.

GEORGE UHLER, Secretary and Treasurer.

M77-td

WANTED.

WANTED—A HUSTLING AGENT IN EACH LOCALITY, to write Health and Accident Insurance. Also furnish \$250. Natural Death Benefit in combination policy if wanted. We insure women as well as men. The right man can earn good immediate money, \$50 to \$200 a month. Previous insurance experience not necessary for this proposition. Write to DR. R. A. GAMBLE, Petersburg, Virginia. M2-2w

FOR SALE.

FOR SALE—Modern launch, "Venus," 36 feet long, 9 feet beam, equipped with two-cylinder Detroit engine, speed 9 to 10 miles per hour. One of the most comfortable boats on the river. Must be seen to be appreciated. Apply corner King and West street. FRANK E. PARKER.

FOR SALE—Four choice lots, in George Washington Park, corner High and Place and Overlook street. A bargain to a quick customer. R. F. KNOX, 115 S. Royal St. M8-6U



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AUCTION SALE

By Samuel H. Lunt, Auctioneer.

AUCTION SALE—Sale of a desirable store, house and dwelling at the southeast corner of Alfred and Pendleton streets, Alexandria, Virginia.

By virtue of and pursuant to the terms of a deed of trust dated November 14th, 1907, executed by Peyton T. Everett, widower, to Robinson Moncreaf, as trustee, and of record in Book No. 57 at page 20 of the land records of Alexandria City, Virginia, at the written request and direction of the party thereby secured, default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by the said deed of trust, the undersigned trustee will offer for sale at public auction, in front of the Royal street entrance to the market house, in Alexandria City, Virginia, on

SATURDAY, JUNE 1, 1912, at 12 o'clock M., that parcel of ground with the improvements thereon and the appurtenances, situate, lying and being at the southeast corner of Alfred and Pendleton streets, Alexandria City, Virginia, and bounded as follows:

BEGINNING at the intersection of the south side of Pendleton street with the east side of Alfred street and running thence south on Alfred street 14 feet to the center of the partition between the house on this lot and the house adjoining on the south; thence east parallel with Pendleton street 20 feet to an alley 10 feet wide; thence north on said alley 14 feet to Pendleton street; and thence west on Pendleton street 20 feet to the beginning, with the right of way over said alley, and being the property which was conveyed to the said Peyton T. Everett by Thomas J. Fannon and J. K. M. Norton, trustees, by deed dated November 14th, 1907. The said lot is improved by a frame dwelling and rooms suitable for a store.

TERMS OF SALE—CASH. Conveyancing at the cost of the purchaser or purchasers.

ROBINSON MONCREAF, Trustee.

M14-4-M39

SUNDAY EXCURSION.

During the period June 2d, 1912, to June 30th, 1912, SOUTHERN RAILWAY will sell SPECIAL \$1.00 SUNDAY EXCURSION TICKETS each Sunday from Washington, Alexandria, Glenvarlyn and Falls Church to Ashburn, Bluemont and intermediate points, final return limit same day. These \$1.00 Sunday Excursion Tickets will also be on sale from Bluemont, Ashburn and intermediate points to Washington and return, with same final limit.

Special Sunday Limited Train will be operated as in past years, Washington to Bluemont and return, effective with first train from Washington 8:55 a. m., May 26th, 1912. This in addition to regular Sunday Local Train now leaving Washington 9:15 a. m.

An excellent opportunity to spend a pleasant day in the Blue Ridge Mountains.

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WASHINGTON, D. C.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF FAIRFAX, VA.

THE NORTH MT. VERNON LAND COMPANY, INC., vs. ROBERT A. THOMPSON, ET AL. In Chancery.

To The North Mt. Vernon Land Company, Inc., Robert A. Thompson, and Frederick T. Russell, Trustees, Daniel R. Thompson, James R. Hunter, George Gammons and J. M. Saunders, Trustees, George W. Turnbuck and Brainerd H. Warner.

TAKE NOTICE: That I will, on the 1st day of May, A. D. 1912, at my office, No. 107 No. Fairfax street, in the City of Alexandria, Virginia, at ten o'clock a. m., proceed to execute the decree rendered in this cause on the 30th day of April, A. D. 1912, wherein I was directed, as Special Commissioner, in Chancery, to report as follows:

"Whether or not the Complainant is entitled to the relief prayed for in the Bill of Complaint. Whether or not the purchase price, referred to in the releasing clauses in the two deeds of trust, one from the Complainant to secure James R. Hunter, and the other to secure Daniel D. Thompson, certain monies, and which trusts are made a part of the Bill in this cause, had reference to the entire purchase price, both cash and deferred; and whether or not the words 'purchase price' related solely to the deferred purchase price."

In ascertaining the facts above, the said Commissioner shall take the depositions of any and all witnesses presented before him, either by Complainant or Defendant, or upon his own volition, all of which shall be made a part of his report. Said Commissioner shall also report with his findings herein, in the law of this case, and any such other matter or thing as any party in interest may demand or that he may deem pertinent.

Given under my hand, this 9th day of May, A. D. 1912.

HOWARD W. SMITH, Special Commissioner.

May 9-1912

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